ill back of the fair grounds on which to construct an air port,most of the work being done with relief workers,and today we find an aeroplane owned by Carl Sheets of Marlinton making almost daily runs about over the county mostly for pleasure,this plane no doubt is the first aeroplane to be bought in the county.Pocahontas County has many level fields from which aeroplanes can start and land therefore it seems that the use of aeroplanes in Pocahontas County is in its infancy,and it is thought by many that they will replace the automobile to a certain extent.Besides Carl Sheets,Walter Mason is learning to fly,and Z.S Smith III is in government service,his uncle Thomas Smith lost his life in government training about 1939,giving his life for the advancement of the Aeroplane in private life as well as defense.

Government mail planes pass over Pocahontas County daily and it is hoped that in the near future we will have Air Mail service out of the county.

Pocahontas County is served by the Pocahontas Telephone Company under the management of James Bear,their lines covering almost the entire area of the county,with 24 hour service through the Marlinton switch board throughout the county and XIXXX out of the county. Keeping this line up requires the services of many laborers,and it is by these lines that the lines of communication are kept going,this has meant a lot to the growth of the county,as both time and money have been saved by many of the per-

Commerce & Industry.S.G.S.Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

tion pf the county,and at one time 80% or more of the homes of the County had a telephone but when the depression came along about 1931 many of them were taken out or cut off and at the present time most of the phones are fou und in the towns as many rural communities are without telephone service altogather or only one or two where there use to be from 30 to 40,but due to the small income of the farmers they were forced to discontinue the service that they so greatly needed,especially in cases of emergencies.

The two power lines that serve Pocahontas County The West Penn serves the upper half of the county while The Virginia Public Service serves the lower portion of the county,this has meant much to the county not only for lights but the many machines that it runs taking the drudgery out of much of the work regularly performed by members of the households,this has caused many electrical appliances to be sold most of which are sold by C.J Richardsons hardware especially washing machines.Radios are found in most of the homes these are serviced by Ralph Dilley and Robert Patterson of Marlinton,with their radio shops

So be it said that electricity has meant much to hhe growth of the county besides the comfort and enjoyment that it brings.

Information-A.W McNeill & Addie B Graham Buckeye.W.Va.
J.O Morrison.Marlinton.W.Va.
Nella F Yeager. Hillsboro.''

Recreation 7

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

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Source Calvin W Price Marlinton.W.Va. Date Filed

W.Va. Geological Survey By Paul Price.

A.W McNeill Buckeye.W.Va.

Pocahontas Times 5/15/41

Commerce And Industry.Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

Pocahontas County has most of our native trees and each year some of these are shipped to different parts of the state by many of the farmers living in the region where these small trees are growing and each year these farmers add to their income by digging and shipping small trees and other shrubbery namely Spruce,Hemlock,White Pine,White & Black Walnut,Quaping Asp,Beech Birch,Ironwood,Elm,Mountain Magnolia,Yellow Poplar,Sassafras,Sycamore,Crab Apple,Mountain Ash,Wild Cherry,Yellow Locust,Sumac,Striped Maple,Sugar Maple Dogwood,Mountain Holley,Red Bud,Rhododendron and Mountain Laurel these are shipped over the entire state for resetting in many of our larger towns and cities of W.Va.The income derived from these trees amounts to several thousand dollars each year.

Each year thousands of dollars of Laurel is dug in Pocahontas County part of this is bought by Frank Labarr of Strausburg,Pa.who has a nursery at White Sulphur Springs,it is dug by local labor and trucked to the nursery and set out and from the nursery it is dug and reshipped to many parts of the U S but especially to New York City and other large cities of the east where it is bought by the rich people to be planted in their lawns and with other plants and trees that make up their shrubbery.Much laurel is bought by tourists passing through therefore the income derived from the sale of Rhododendron in Pocahontas County is great.As it is our state flower Pocahontas County is proud

Marlinton and Elk Mutual Telephone Co.

Certificate of Incorporation

April 26, 1912

1. The undersigned agree to become a corporation by the nam
the Marlinton and Elk Mutual Telephone Company.
2. The principal place of business shall be in the village
of Slaty Fork, West Virginia.
3. The chief works shall be in the village of Edray.
4. The total amount of Authorized Capital stock shall be
$625. to be divided into 50 shares at $12.50 per share.
5. ~~Subscribers~~ Incorporators —

Names	Address	No. of shares
L. D. Sharp	Slaty Fork	1
Robert Gibson	Slaty Fork	1
John D. Gibson	Slaty Fork	1
W. L. Gay	Edray	1
Levi Gay	Edray	1

This company had lines beginning at Marlinton, al
the Marlinton and Huttonsville Turnpike, now U. S. Route
through the village of Edray, thence to Slaty Fork.

llows: An Article of Agreement between the Ronceverte an
kins Telephone Company, parties of the first part, and
mes Gibson, trustee for the Marlinton and Elk Mutual Tel
one Company, of the second part. The parties of the firs
ree to sell that portion of the system known as the Elk
om where the line from Elk connects with the line runnin
om Staunton, Virginia to Ronceverte, W. Va. on the Clover
ck road, but the parties or the first part reserve the r
put upon said poles either a grounded or metallic circu
they so desire, said lines to be put on cross arms far
low the present ones so as not to interfeere with said se

It is further agreed that the said trustee is purchasi
id line for a company to be hereafter organized and they
reby bind said company to comply with the provisions of t
reement and by the proper officers after the company has
en legally organized. signed by- A. W. Arbogast, Manager
gust 27, 1908. (Deed Book 43 page 428)

You will notice that though this line was purchased in
08, the company was not fully chartered until in 1912.

The Pocahontas Telephone Company

Certificate of Incorporation

May 10, 1919

1. The corporators shall become a corporation by the name of Pocahontas Telephone Company.
2. The principal place of business shall be at Marlinton.
3. To conduct a general business throughout the counties of Greenbrier, Pocahontas and Randolph in West Virginia and counties of Bath and Highland in Virginia.
4. To erect its poles and wires along all public highways, lanes, and alleys, with the consent of the Common Council and the consent of the County Court of these counties.

The said Company may acquire by purchase or lease any of property or right of ways of any other telephone companies make any contract with any other such companies consistent with the general laws of this state.

5. The total amount of the Authorized Capital stock shall be $15,000. divided into 1500 shares at $10. per share.
6. Incorporators-

Names	Address	No. of shares
Dr. H. C. Solter	Marlinton	50
George P. Moore	Edray	50

Marlinon and Academy Mutual Telephone Company

The Certificate of Incorporation for this company canno be found on record, but it was organized soon after the Marlinton, Knapps Creek and Dilleys Mill Company, probably late in the year of 1907, for on February 28, 1908 they appointed as their Attorney L. M.Mcclintic, and it was sig by J. L. McNeel, President, who no doubt was the first pre of the company. (Deed Book 43, page 33)

On January 11, 1909 they purchased from the Koncevert Elkins Telephone Company the following assets: "All of the rights and titles to the telephone line beginning at Payne Store in the village of Academy(now Hillsboro) and extend with two wires to the foot of the mountain near Wallace Be and with one wire by way of Lobelia to Jacox together with the branch wires and connections of said line, and all rig and privileges owned by the said party of the first part, ry for the operation of said line." by G. C. Mohn, Preside

(Deed Book 44, page 207)

This was the only mutual telephone company

The mutual telephone companies came into existance
lower the telephone rates and to make it possible for mo
people to have telephones. They built the lines at a tim
when the poles could be gotten from their own wood lots
little or no cost. They were organized on a non-profit b
and the stockholders were assessed only enough to offset
actual year to year cost of operation. No money was put
the treasury and held as a capital for the time when the
needed to be rebuilt, therefore, after around twenty yea
they found themselves confronted with the problem of reb
and found that they had no money with which to rebuild.
the Pocahontas Telephone Company was incorporated and th
mutual companies one by one sold their assets to this Co
until at this time only the Marlinton and Elk Mutual
Telephone Company remains in operation as a mutual compa

The mutual companies all used the grounded systen
telephones, and all of the Corporators in these companie
were local people who wished to make no profit therefron
But the telephone, like most of our improvments, was beg
by people from out of the county

At present (1941) the Pocahontas Telephone Company e Marlinton and Elk Mutual Telephone Company are the onl pperation in the county. The Forestry Service, however, s about 60 or 70 miles of main pole line in the county th an exchange at Thornwood. Otherwise they have connect rough the exchanges belonging to the Pocahontas Telephon ompany. The Mutual Company has connection at Marlinton. he three exchanges or switchboards in the county are loca t Marlinton, Cass and Hillsboro.

The Pocahontas Telephone Company has raised the amo f Authorized Capital Stock from the original $15,000. to 35,000. Their present officials are: E. H. Williams, Pres. . B. Wallace, Vice-Pres.; and J. M. Bear, Sec. and Treas.

The old Monceverte and Elkins Telephone Company had lines to all of the principal places in the county. rom Lewisbugg to Marlinton, to Staunton, up through the ounty to Durbin, and from Marlinton to

erce & Industry Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas County.

Sandstone both of the cut rock and creek rock type have been us

vely in W.Va. and especially in Pocahontas County in building ro

houses these rock are used for the outer walls,some of these hous

at our state parks.

Much of Pocahontas Countys secondary road system is made from

is covered with slate and shale which is found in many sections o

especially at Huntersville and Frost where our best shale is fou

oad from Marlinton to Greenbank is made of gravel known as Chert

en from the farms of Sherman Gibson at Frost and W.H Barlow at Hu

State route 219 known as Seneca Trail between Hillsboro and

s made of limestone this distance is 2 mile and this stretch of ro

be the longest stretch of straight road in the state.

Pocahontas County has a sandstone on Droop Mountain that i

lass sand remarkably pure sand other sand found in the county is n

t has been used very extensively in cement work especially in R R

d of Locust Creek and scattered over a greater part of Little

d sections of Swago Creek therefore our rock formations hold a

re in both a commercial and industrial way as much of them are un

largely because there is lack of men that follow the stonemason wo

ny buildings and walls along the state roads attract the attention

from outside the state and they marvel at the beautiful scenery in

mountain peaks covered with rock cliffs and trees,these areas are

with wild flowers and other plant life that helps make our county on

ost beautiful counties in the state,with much of her natural resourc

pped .

In many sections of Pocahontas County you find shale and clay suitabl

manufacture of brick and tile the richest section of this formation

iles southwest of Buckeye,however it is found on Browns Mountain and o

t fork of the Greenbrier River north of Durbin to the Randolph Ciunty

true fire clay that resists high furnace temperature has never been

rce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.

water is bottled and sold also in the summer months it is deliver-

rlinton to many people as their main drinking water this water is

ly calcium, magnesium, and sulphur. Minnehaha Springs the largest of

ral springs has been developed into a summer resort and known far and

its swimming pool, this pool along with the hotel attract many peop-

this state and from outside as the water is pure with very high mine-

ty and content. The Droop Mountain Spring located on the eastern end

Mountain and owned by Remus Outlip has been used by many people in

nty as well as many from outside the county and state and many people

ures from this water in many internal disorders. Most of our mineral

lack development while others lack roads to take mineral water out-

hem therefore our mineral springs are very much undeveloped save for

s mentioned that have given results.

ation. C.W Price. Marlinton. W. Va.

George Hefner. " "

Viola Kee. " "

West Virginia Writers' Project

Pocahontas -7

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry.
Tanneries.

Date 4/18/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 4/14, 15, 16

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Source Pocahontas Times.Marlinton.
R.W Brown Arbovale.W.Va.
Benton Smith.Millpoint.W.Va.

Date Filed

APR 1941
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CHARLESTON, W. VA.

...erce And Industry.Samuel G Smith.Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Cou

The first tannery or old time Tan Yard of much size was erect

James Smith who came to Pocahontas County from the state of Virginia a

taunton,he having learned the tanners trade there and set out across t

heny mountain for a country suitable for the location of a tannery the

e chose was along the Seneca Indian trail and later became known as Mi

nd it was at this point that he stopped rigged up a corn mill and a Ta

his was about 1828 to 30 and the tannery was located between Stamping

nd the foot of the hill near the C.M Wallace residence and it was here

mes Smith put into practice what he had learned in Va.as he had learne

nners trade there from an old tanner with years of experience.

From this James Smith to 1941 we have had four generations of

at were tanners Isaac a son of James had a tanyard,his son Edgar follo

cestors and he to was a tanner and today we find his son Benton with a

te tannery on Route 219 near the Marvin Chapel Church and the Ruckman

use,the building is a cement block structure with

-- Tannery-

rce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W.Va. Pocahontas County

goods as they prefer the slow process tanning as it takes 6 months

e and some longer, the bark used is a local product as he uses Chestn

k that is dried and ground in a crude grinding machine of his own ma

arts of an old grinder used by his grandfather the late Isaac Smith,

tan yard on the Greenbrier River between Watoga and the mouth of St

, this yard was built by James Smith after he left Millpoint about 18

James Smith had 5 boys of these 3 were tanners Isaac, Jacob and Jo

am was a harness and saddle maker and Pleas was a doctor, Isaac opera

s fathers yard on the river, Jacob had a tan yard at Edray and Joseph

yard on his farm in the glade pasture near his residence now occupi

ramer.

Most of the leather tanned by the Smiths was either made up into

t into harness and saddles however some of the leather was bought fo

here in the state by shoemakers and harness makers.

Another tan yard of notice was built and run by the late George

nd Ellis McCarty of the Lewis

Tanneries-
Commerce And Industry Samuel G Smith Hillsboro W.Va.Pocahont

into harnass and repair work on shoes harness.This tannery wa

in the 80s and early 90s.

Often times the vats were visited when the leather was ready

worked and finished these visitors always picked the best sid

could find,the tanner would miss his leather but very seldom k

as this always took place at night this got to be a regular pr

ubt caused some of these tan yards to cease operation al these

in Little Levels District but the one operated by Jacob Smith

The first tannery or old time tan Yard of any size in the

county was near Greenbank where first class upper and soleleath

arles P Brown this was about 1850 he operated here for a time

nd moved over on North Fork and located another tannery this t

in operation until about 1870 when he quit the tanners trade a

mason work the rest of his life,his old homestead is now owned

on Walter Brown.

doing business under the firm name of Sutton,Ruckman & Company,
he largest old time tannery that was in the county at that time.At
ery they turned out several hundred finished sides of leather that
n making shoes and harness they specialized in heavy logging harnes
umber business was at high tide at this time,some of these harness
n use by farmers around Greenbank as they were the best ofharness m
the best of leather.

This tannery was on the S.J Sutton farm on North Fork who s
about 1870 and was part of the Godlip Hartman tract granted to him
for a sugar camp this Sutton homestead is now owned by the heirs of
F.C Sutton.

An up to date and modern tannery is now operated by Kerth
a branch of Duncans Run he buys raw green hides and after they are ta
part of the leather but a greater part is used by him in harness and
work however he does lots of custom work tanning for half of the leat

d and finished makes a beautiful rug or chair back and cushion c

car seat Benton Smith specializes in tanned Sheep hides these h

e tourist trade from this state and many others from coast to

Deer and Bear hides tanned with the hair on are bought by the t

ist as Benton runs a filling station along with his tannery and

as attracted the tourist XXXXX passing through W.Va.and Pocahor

d in this way he has a market for his products as he not only se

t makes fancy belts that are bought by the traveling public.

Benton Smith is one of the first enrolled members in the Ass

tsmen of W.Va.a newly organized guild of native craftsmen whose h

cter and integrity,the association hopes to provide better hides

e a better outlet for his products.

The modern tannery or tan yard plays a very important part in

communitys of Pocahontas County as the farmer can bring in his cow

s and in less than a year has finished leather to repair his harne

Location

Nelle Y. McLaughlin,
Marlinton, W. Va.

March 5, 1940

Chapter 4- Section 4 - Part a.

Tanning was quite an industry from the time of the first pioneer. Great skill was attained by the pioneer in curing the skins so as to make them soft and pliable, that they might be used in making different items of clothing, such as pants, caps, moccasins, and many other things.

The first tannery or tan yord operated by the people of the Greenbank Community was on land in the possession of Jacob Rambaugh, which was prior to 1800. The old tanner's name was Taber. He was a hatter by trade - made fur caps, moccasins, and buck skin pants. His tanning vats were large troughs, and a certain kind of bark, roots and herbs were used in dressing the hides, which accounts for his locating so far in the mountains.

The first tannery or old time tan yard of any consequence where first class upper and sole leather was manufactured was owned and operated by Charles P. Brown, who purchased the James Townsend patent of eighty-eight acres from James B. Campbell in the year of 1850, and erected his tannery that year. He kept the tannery in operation about six years when he sold out and moved across on North Fork where he located

and O. W. Ruckman formed a partnership under the name Ruckman and Company, and erected the largest old time nery in the County. At this tannery several hundred would be tanned dressed and finished into first class and upper leather each year for a period of about twen years. In connection with the tannery, they made sho heavy logging harness for the lumber companies. This tannery was on the lands of S. J. Sutton.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject ~~Pocahontas~~ County History
~~Chapter 8 Section 28~~

Date May 3, 1941

Research Worker Juanita S. Dilley

Date Research Taken I hav
on this most o
week

Typist Juanita S. Dilley

Date Typed May 2, 3, 1

Source.

Date Filed

Deed Books 44, 67, 45, 49, 43, 41, 56,

J. Bear, Sec. and Treas. of Pocahontas Telephon

MAY 1941 RECEIVED Federal Writers Project U.S. 40, W. VA.

RECEIVED Federal Writers Project CHARLESTON, W. VA.

Junnita S. Dilley
Pocahontas County
April 25 30 1941
Chapter 8 section 2e

Telephones

Marlinton and Stony Creek Mutual Telephone Co.

Certificate of Incorporation

March 20, 1909

I-Stuart F. Reed, Secretary of the state of West Virginia, hereby certify that an agreement duly acknowledged and accompanied by the proper affidavits, has this day been delivered to me, which agreement is in the words and figures following:

1. The undersigned agree to become a corporation by the name of the Marlinton and Stony Creek Mutual Telephone Company
2. The Principal Place of Business of said Corporation shall be located in the village of Onoto, in the county of Pocahontas, State of West Virginia. Said Corporation shal have no chief works.
3. The objects and purposes for which this Corporation is formed are as follows:

To construct, maintain and own a system of telephone lines between Marlinton and Laurel Creek, and along the public roads and highways in and throughout Edray District

orporation shall be nine hundred ($900.) dollars, which
hall be divided into sixty (60) shares at the par value of
15. each; of which a capital stock to the amount of $225.
as been subscribed and paid.

ncorporators

Names	Address	No. of shares
. L. Carter	Onoto	1
. S. Dulany	"	1
. F. Gay	"	1
. W. Sharp	"	1
. W. Hill	"	1
J. N. White	"	1
N. G. Cochran	"	1
S. C. Baxter	"	1
Porter Kellison	"	1
C. C. Baxter	"	1
John Walford	"	1
Luther McNeill	"	1
A. B. Gay	"	1
M. r. Knapp	"	1
Wesley Barlow	"	1

to subscribers after saidn line passes upon the property o
said subscribers, for the sum of $375.

signed, E. F. McLaughlin, President

Deed Book 67 page 138

Marlinton and Clover Lick Mutual Telephone Co.

Certificate of Incorporation

June 17, 1909

I Dtuart A. Reed, Secretary of the state of West
certify that an agreement duly acknowledged and accompanie
proper affidavits, has this day been delivered to me, whic
agreement is in the words and figures following:

1. The undersigned agree to become a corporation by the na
   The Marlinton and Clover Lick Mutual Telephone Company.
2. The principal place of business of said Corporation sha
   be located in the village of Warwick. Its chief works s
   be located in the village of Warwick.
3. The objects and purposes for which this Corporation is

Corporation shall be $1,125.00 which shall be divided into 75 shares of the par value of $15. each; of which authorized stock $1,125.00 has been subscribed and the amount of $660. has been paid.

5. Corporators--

Names	Address	No. of Shares
John A. Beverage	Clover Lick	15
A. N. Barlow	Warwick	15
G. S. Weiford	Warwick	15
George W. Allen	Warwick	15
Charles Shinaberry	Clover Lick	15

Deed Book 45 page 43

John A. Beverage became the first President of this c and G. S. Weiford was Secretary and Treasurer.

The chief works were later moved to Clover Lick and J. J. became president. This company owned the exchange at Clover Lick and had connection through the exchanges at Marlinton Dunmore. They paid a certain amount for each telephone tha made exchange through these switchboards.

In a deed made March 14, 1930 the Marlinton and Clo

The Telephone in Pocahontas County

The coming of the telephone to Pocahontas county was t
first quick communication that we had with the busy marts of
trade. It antedated the telegraph. The county was connected u
with the centers by telephnne in the year 1898, and that mark
the beginning of quick news. I cannot say that it brought any
special relief but the citizens of this county are like every
one else, interested in all advancement of science and educati
Inside the county, the telephone has been a convenience and a
time saver from the time that it was first installed. In the
year of 1899 telephone lines were built along all of the
principal roads in the county. Now instead of riding to Edray,
Huntersville and elsewhere for a doctor which often took many
hours of hard riding in the bitter cold weather, he could now
be reached in a few minutes by telephone. It has saved many a
journey and many a messenger.

In 1898, the telephone had reached the town of Huttons-
ville, which town also had a railroad and was one of the depot
for Marlinton. Marlinton occupied, that year, a peculiar situa
in regard to railroad facilities, North it was 46 miles to
Huttonsville; South 46 miles to Hongevent[illegible]

On these was strung a small wire and the line came forward in a very short time. It seemed to take no time at all to connect the two villages, and no time at all to connect our shut in village with the wires that ran all over the world.

A telephone was set up in Squire Uriah Bird's Store and Justice Court room and I got the greatest thrill of my life by holding a conversation with the late Dr. Bosworth, who was in Muttonsville, forty-six miles away. I have believed in faries ever since. It was a question submitted to the local wise men how a voice could be heard that far, and the most plausible theory was by one of the neighbors in debating how sound could travel through the air instantly. We had all watched a man cutting wood at a distance and noticed that the sound reached us a long time after we saw the ax descend. The theory was that the electric field was like a plank, that when it was pushed forward that both ends moved simultaneously. This seemed to satisfy all of the neighbors who had gathered, 100%, to hear this first message to be heard over the new line.

It will be seen by the date that telephones were in more or less general use long before they reached this county, and like so many of our developments, was done by people outside the county instead of by the

The next telephone company to build and operate a line in this county was the Koncevert and Elkins Telephone whose charter found in Deed Book 35 page 15 gives the foll information:

Certificate Of Incorporation

September 1, 1903

Principal place of business to be at Marlinton.

Its chief works shall be located in Pocahontas County and other counties.

The capital stock shall be $10,000 to be divided into 100 shares at a par value of $100 each.

Stockholders	Address	Number of shares
S. J. Payne	Academy, W.Va.	five
E. M. Arbogast	Marlinton, W.Va.	five
G. S. Mohn	Pennsylvania	five
W. A. Bratton	Marlinton, W.Va.	four
J. W. Price	Marlinton, W.Va.	One

Rates were high and many of the people did not f that they could pay them, therefore the business men of t county got together and organized the mutual telephone

Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Marlinton, W. Va.

March 20, 1940

Pocahontas County

Chapter 5-- Section 3

I learn from some of the writings of Mr. Andrew Price that he had made two visits to the flint quarries or flint pits on Stamping Creek, near Mill Point. These workings are in sight of the State highway known as the Seneca Trail on Mr. Tom Beard's farm about a mile and a half back of his residence, in a fine blue grass pasture. There are several hundred of the pits.

The most remarkable thing is that part of the range that has been called the Rich Garden for the past one hundred or so years. It is a pasture now but Mr. William Beard farmed it for a number of years. Though the land has been plowed many times, the pits are plain to be seen. At first sight it looks like a place that had been a village, where houses had been set close together walls touching, and under each house there had been a cellar. This little hollow owes its great fertility to the disintegration of the limestone, and there can be little doubt but that a large number of boulders or flint nodules were

Pocahontas County

Here was Pocahontas County's oldest industry. The red men as far north as Ohio and Marshall Counties would send their young men here with their spades made from the antlers of deer, elk and moose, staked their claims and worked them and carried back to the flint workers the nodules secured on the expedition.

Peter Lightner was one of the first settlers i what is now Pocahontas County. He was a German-Dutch and came from the eastern part of the state. He sett on Knapps Creek. Prior to his coming, there were no nearer than Staunton which was a hundred miles distant through a trackless wilderness. This was too far to think of going to mill so the people prepared their ov corn for bread. The method was simple: a large tree was felled, from which a block or cut was taken, which when placed on end was probably as high as a man's wa It was placed on end in front of the cabin, then a fi was built upon it and so managed that an inverted con was formed. From this the charred coals were taken

some of the pioneers had to come thirty miles, they cor sidered it an easy task to provide bread. This mill w located on Knapps Creek. Although over a hundred year have passed, yet a portion of the old mill and a trace of the race still remain. Mr. Lightner sold this old mill to John Bradshaw who in turn sold it to Henry Harp The buhrs are now in an old mill in Highland County, Vi ginia.

The first tub mill and saw mill in the Greenbar District was owned and operated about 1800 by the pione Wooddells, Probably Joseph Wooddell, the Revolutionary War veteran. A tilt hammer was installed at this mil which was very much needed by the pioneers in making to and implements of iron and steel.

In the year 1822 Patrick Bruffey purchased from Jacob Gillispie and James Tallman one hundred thirty-fo acres of land which was a part of the Thomas Jarvis Gra of four hundred acres. He built a grist mill and a sa mill and carved a mill race out of the hillside more th a quarter of a mile. In connecti

Pocahontas-7

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

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Tilt-hammer

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Source John B Buckley, A.W Lightner
Nancy A McNeill, John G McNeill
And Willis McKeever all of Buckeye.W.Va
Court Records. Marlinton.W.Va.

Date Filed

Have been working on this at spare time whenever I came in cont
with anyone that knew or had heard of this operation.

Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith. Hillsboro. W.Va. Pocal

Tilt-hammer.

On January 9th 1835 William Cochran bought 44 acres from John
ckley of Buckeyn or at that time known as Buckeye Cove the deed
ssed by William Young, R. Armentrout and John Gilford the Buckley
efore William Cackley and William Gibson on April 17 1835 and ha
wo gentlemen to swear them to the papers as Gibson and Cackley w
ce of the Peace and was recorded by H.M Moffett Clerk.

After settling here Cochran went to work to earn a living a
ing a blacksmith decided to put in a Tilt-hammer which was run by
power by harnessing Swago Creek, he dug a race from the upper end
is known as the Shelton place to the lower end or about opposite
Rogers home of today and it was here that he built his Tilt-hamme
ch he he made Horse Shoes , horse shoe nails, rod iron or in fact
ing anybody wanted that could be made of ~~#~~ iron and this iron wa
by wagon and team from where ever he could get it as steel at tha
ery hard to get and came in large pieces that required lots of w
t down .

This tilt-hammer worked from the waterwheel soon as the wa
turned on the hammers started in a striking manner and with the a
under you had a heavy striking force, the iron was heated and the
in motion all the attendant had to do was turn the iron in the d
sition and it was in this manner that the nails and shoes were
anything else he received an order for and ~~##/###~~ his shoes and
bought by farmers from Swago and the surrounding

Marlinton 7

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

ect Commerce & Industry.Gunpowder Date I/I7/4I

arch Worker Samuel G Smith Date Research Taken I/I5 & I6/4I and before

t Samuel G Smith Date Typed I/I7/4I

alvin Price.Marlinton

G.D & John C McNeill Buckeye. Date Filed

ohn B Buckley & Willis Mckeever Buckeye.W.Va.

ourt Records.Marlinton.W.Va.

Have been gathering information on this operation for some ti

not able to finish until this time.

Calvin Price requested that this powder mill operation be wri

sent in for publication in the history.

Commerce And Industry.Samuel G Smith.Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas C

I

Thomas McNeill was born I747 and died 1808 and was a pioneer
tler in Pocahontas County as he settled on Swago Creek in I768 and
Mary Hughes,took up what was known as a tomahawk claim from the I
and lived on what is a part of the McClintic farm today(one of my
nts John C Mcneilltells me that Thamas had learned the powder trade
father as it seemed to be a trade carried on by the McNeills even
tland before they came to America,and that as soon as he got locate
began to make gunpowder.))

In I77 0 Jonathan his son was born and he toolearned the po
de from his father,he married Pheobe Moore the daughter of Moses Moo
ny Creek and they put in a Grist Mill at what is now the entrance t
lintic farm,built a stone house where he had a loom that he wove wi
o he made dyes and was noted for his famous Indigo Blue.at the same
put in a powder plant or mill on what is known as the Shelton place.

To make this powder required sulphur,charcoal and saltpete
phur he got from Staunton Va.and transported it in to this county or
horses,the charcoal he got from burning willow wood or could use buc
d butt not so good,the saltpeter he got was from the salt petre cave
e McClintic farm and not far from the residence of Lee Overholt,this
ten from the rich limestone soil found in this particular cave,this
ut in to a hopper like the old ash hopper andpoured water ouer it ca
contents and boiled it down and had the finished product salt petre
er this he took the three

Commerce & Industry.S.G Smith.Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

- Gun Powder-

tion that Thomas furnished gun powder to the soldiers of the Revolut
ar,and that Jonathan furnished it for the war of I8I2 but G.D McNeill
never heard this but it could be.

They sold this powder to the neighbors and traded it for corn
heat and it is possible that some of it was traded to the Indians as t
powder operation was the only industry in this section at that time.

Jonathan had a loom and wove lincy that was used in the makin
dresses and other garments for women,he wove genes for mens shirts an
trousers they also wove Coverlets and some of these are found today a
home ofJohn C McNeill a decendant of of Thomas and Jonathan McNeill,Jon
spent a great deal of his time in the old stone house experimenting wi
coloring material and as he was known far and near as the weaver and c
as well as the man who made gunpowder.A grist mill was run in connecti
with the powder plant and in his will Oct.I3.I825 he willed to his wife
Phoebe Moore McNeill his grist mill and she had to run it day and nigh
to avoid grinding on the sabbath she was known near and far as the hone
miller.John McNeill a son of Jonathan was born I792 and he to made powd
and sold it among his neighbors.so it seemed to be a trade that each ge
eration took up as we have here three different generations that mad
powder some just for their own use while others made it in quantity fo
sale and trade with the help of the water power they were able to mix
grind it in quantity and were able to supply the demand at all times
From all the information obtainable this powder plant was i

Pocahontas

Chapter 7

NORTH FORK MILL BURNS

Dear Cal:

Saturday night, March 2nd, 1940, was the time that the North Fork Flour Mill was utterly and completely destroyed by fire This disaster is considered the most unfortunate event of a calamitous nature that has afflicted the Greenbank neighborhood since the days of the Civil War. Mr. J B. Orndorff owner of the mill had worked in the mill all day without fire Different persons had passed the mill just after dark and saw no light or fire The fire was first discovered about 7 p. m., by Clyde Gillispie and Cecil Arbogast who live near by; the whole inside was a mass of flames when first discovered. In less than a half hours time the whole structure was a mass of ruined machinery, cog wheels, shafting, fly wheels, and mill stones. The entire loss is estimated at more than $10,000 The two turbine driving wheels are still in the water deck in regular arrangement. This mill has been the main stand by for the neighborhood for a period of about 60 years. The entire neighborhood sustains a sense of loss and sympathize with Mr Orndorff in his great loss.

This mill was erected by Uriah Hevener, Sr., in the year 1879, on the site of the old Bruffey flour mill. Patrick Bruffey had erected a flour mill on the same site about the year of 1825 which was driven by an over shot water wheel; he also had an up and down saw mill driven by the same water power arrangement, which had been supplanted by a new saw mill in the 1870's.

In the last few years the mill was operated under the firm name of The

The services of James Elliott was secured to build the mill and with the help of Eldridge Brown and a Mr. Propps did all the carpenter work on the building. Charles P. Brown laid the foundation and did the mason work. The machinery was put in perfect running condition by a millwright by the name of Corann and Robert J Brown, carpenter helper.

Many different millers operated the mill during the past sixty years. Perhaps Robert N. Gum worked in the mill longer than the other miller.

In keeping up with industry, and in view of the needs of the Greenbank community it may be observed that the old Bruffey mill and the Hevener mill was a center of industry and had their place of importance in the niche of the history of the Green bank community.

James Elliott, the master mechanic, of the building was a soldier of the Indian wars; was a private under the command of General George A. Custer, and General Reno. He was with Reno's army when General Custer's Company was massacred in 1876 Mr Elliott's affidavit was taken by Squire John P. Townsend in 1926 for the purpose of securing a pension for Mr Elliott as an Indian war veteran. Mr Elliott died before the papers were ratified and sanctioned by the U. S. Government. Mr Elliott was a Confederate soldier in the Civil War under command of General Kirby Smith, and Dick Taylor in the South West. After the war Mr Elliott worked his way from Mississippi to Iowa, and from there in company with a man named Reynolds, went to the Dakotas on a trapping expedition, and thereby enlisted in Custer's Army.

Folder 1

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce And Industry — Date 5/10/41

Research Worker Samuel G Smith — Date Research Taken 5/7,8,9/41

Typist Samuel G Smith — Date Typed 5/9,10/41

Source C.W Price.George Hefner &
iola Kee & T.S McNeel Marlinton.W.Va.
.G McKeever & Nancy A McNeill Buckeye.W.Va.
ggie Ruckman,J.L McNeel & Anna Wallace Millpoint.W.Va.
W Brown Greenbank.W.Va.
Va.Geological Survey.Paul Price.

Date Filed

MAY 1941

— Continued from last week —

Broad Ford Sandstone coming from the Jerico Flat and the

near the top of Price hill were used in the Court-House also th

the old covered bridge across the Greenbrier at Marlinton came f

and Kee Flats.

About 1775 John Bruffey came to America from Ireland he h

rned the stone mason trade before coming to this country and it w

his ancestors that did most of the stone work in Pocahontas County

atter part of the 17th century and the 18th he and his sons were n

ir fine stone work and it was John Bruffey with the assistance of

ohn, Patrick, and Mark that built the rock house for Jonathan McNei

ntrance of McClintic Farms on Swago Creek, they lived in the Swago

that time. John Bruffey was a noted stone worker and today you f

he tombstones that were erected from 1775 to 1807 were made by hi

om various parts of the county but the most of them came from Bru

u find these stones in the McNeel cemetary in the Little Levels a

Commerce And Industry.Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas

ire but he met a sudden death at Millpoint in 1807,he and his fam

t time lived at Swago now known as Buckeye and he took a grist of

llpoint to the mill for the family bread supply and it was told th

an informant and relative that he was watering his horse when a d

from the bank of the creek into the water and frightened his hors

to be thrown off hitting his head on a rock causing almost instan

sons foolowed this profession for many years and Murry Bruffey so

r John Bruffey traveled about over the county making monuments and

find some of his work in most of the older graveyards started yea

Patrick Bruffey located in the northern part of Pocahontas Cou

nbank,this was about 1822 he erected a grist mill getting the mill

e Pine Grove on Mill Stone Run or Rileys Creek above Pine Grove th

are still in use in the North Fork Mill,Bruffey later became Sheri

ntas County,he died 1853.

A fort was built of native sandstone at the forks of North Fork

r Creek about 1775 for the protection of the settlement from the in

Jerce and Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W.Va. Pocahontas Count

ry, the Lightner quarry or on Price Run known as Jerico Flats, what

to be the oldest cut stone chimney in this section of the county is in

Flats built about 1800 by George Kee who came from Tyrone Irelan

he built a double log house and had this chimney built from rock

Flemings Quarry now owned by John McNeill after his passing his so

lived in the log house which was burned during the war about 64 a

this chimney is in use at the same location being rebuilt in 1935

Hefner this property is owned by the decendants of George & John

a Kee and Middie McLaughlin. On the Kee Mountain is a sandstone qua

ner rock that have been worked out by stone mason for hearth rock

used with the old fireplace so common in all the older housesof P

County and especially the ones of the rural sections.

George Hefner who lives on Elk Mountain learned the Stone Mas

hen quite a young man working with George Overholt he has built 11

chimneys to this time and has made and erected some 10 to 12 tombs

e Hefners the rock used came from Elk Mountain and the farm of A.W

of near Buckeye. William C McNeill

rce & Industry Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

ctions of Pocahontas County.

ne other camps of worthy notice is the W.G McKeever camp on Sw-

they usually make from I to 200 gallons they use a pan and sell

locally and to people passing through the county,another camp

rable size is the C.W Kennison camp just out of Hillsboro on the

ad they have a small evaporator and usually make around 500 gal-

locally,the income derived from the sale of maple syrup and ~~syrup~~ sugar

reat deal to the farmers of Pocahontas County in the way of extra

ever, many of the smaller camps have been cut down and put into lum-

s greatly in demand at this particular time,most of the sugar maple

now show the marks of being tapped years and years ago by our fore-

Tradition has it that the Indians found out about the syrup from

r by chopping notches in sugar trees letting it freeze the water of

ontent freezing solid and what did not freeze was maple syrup so this

of making

Commerce And Industry Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

heir living on the farm and come as near doing so as any farm the wri

s ever visited in his many years of contact work.As the pioneer of P

ontas County had to depend on maple syrup and sugar for sweetening t

fore it had its place with the early settlers,as they often times tr

maple sugar to the merchant for coffee and other necessary articles

at the pioneer did not produce therefore it took the place of money

lped with the exchange of goods.Many of my informants say the day of

uckwheat cakes and tree syrup were days never to be forgotten,and tha

rup helped to make up their daily diet which consisted principally of

n corn pone,strong coffee,bacon and syrup.

Information---Mrs. Ligon Coyner. Cloverlick.W.Va.

W.G McKeever. Buckeye.W.Va.

C.W Price Marlinton. W.Va.

J.O Morrison. " "

Nancy A McNeill.Buckeye.W.Va.

Pocahontas Chapter 7

Efficient Producti
And Wise Marketi
Boost Potato Pro

Master Potato Growers of West Virginia for 1939 view the results of their work. Upper left: Wilbur Moore of Mill Point, Pocahontas county, wearing a crown of potatoes and displaying some of his choice spuds. Lower left: Roy W. Godley, Agricultural Counselor for Monongahela West Penn Public Service Company; Robert L. Hammer, Randolph county agrcultural agent; and J. Earle Romine, Master Potato Grower in Randolph, looking over his equipment for putting potatoes up n 15-lb bags with "Upper Ten" label. Upper right: Part of potato exhibit at Randolph County Grain and Potato Show. Lower right: L M Beeghley of Brandonville, Master Potato Grower of Preston county.

vied with each other during the past year in demonstrating the possibilities of potatoes as a cash crop in a project sponsored cooperatively by the Upper Monongahela Valley Association, the Monongahela West Penn Public Service Company, and the Agricultural Extension Service of West Virginia University in each o fthe counties; the Preston County Potato Growers' Association in that county; and the Daily Inter-Moun tain newspaper in Randolph.

Fields of growers cooperating in the project were inspected for freedom from weeds and disease and insect injury and for vigor fo growth. Acreage and yields were recorded, and the methods used in production including kind of seed used, maintenance of organic matter in the soil and fertilization, and disease and insect control were carefully checked. Methods of harvesting and marketing the crop were also considered, with a view to determining who was enitled to recognition as the Master Potato Grower in each county.

Awards Are Given Winners

Wilbur E. Moore of Mill Point, Pocahontas County; L. M. Beeghley of Brandonville, Prest and J. Earle Romine Randolph county were winners and declared M Growers in their respe ties. Each received a cas $25. The Randolph co also received a silver provided by the daily tain newspaper of Elkin

Hevener Dilley of and George V. Hannah, placed second and thir hontas county. Roy Durs and Charles C. Knapp of were second and third and second and third pl were D. P. Linger and tonsville and Leslie V Montrosee.

The Master Potato C ject was instituted for th last season in West Virg three-fold purpose: (1) the attention of growers ed practices in productio keting, (2) to give rec growers doing a good jo to demonstrate the poss supplementing the cash farmers in the state by g tatoes for market.

West Virginia Writers' Project

Pocahontas-7

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

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Source H.M Widney.Frank.W.Va. Date Filed
Calvin W Price.Marlinton.
W.Va.Geological Survey.By Paul H Price

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY. SAMUEL G SMITH HILLSBORO. W. VA. POCAHONTAS COUNTY.

TANNING.

Pocahontas County has had tanneries of various sizes operating si

ce the first settlers came here, The Greenbrier Tannery of The Union Tanning Company operating in th

Greenbrier Valley under the Greenbrier Tannery began operation about 1901

their main office was in New York they operated continuously ~~until~~ until

1927 when the original plant burned, however a new and up-to-date tannery

built upon the original site, but it failed to operate and was idle from I

until 1941.

Both tanbark and extract was used from 01 to 28 when it was run

ing at capacity, and the daily capacity at that time was about 600 hides a

at that time they employed about 150 men both skilled and unskilled with

approximate pay-roll of $ 120,000 per year. This tannery had a reputation

producing a very fine grade of leather which was known by the trade name

"Greenbrier", and was in great demand by the leather industry all over th

eastern part of the U S. The finished product was shipped almost entirely

Boston, Massachusetts.

The general manager was S.N Hench, and today a part of Marlinto

outside people to move in,this made a market that in turn
es to be built to supply the needs of the tannery workers
some 40 to 50 dwelling houses were built by the Union Tan

This plant was idle until the spring of 41 when
the International Shoe Company of St.Louis Missouri and i
firm name of Marlinton Tannery of International Shoe Co.o
having a contract with the federal government to supply t
thousand pairs of shoes,and at the present time they are
to 130 men and will hire more as they get production star
roll runs about $10,000 monthly.This pay-roll helps great
nery whistle blew for the first time in 12 years the peopl
surrounding countryside were joyous because they knew Marl
have a pay-roll which is boosting the local markets.

Pocahontas County has another tannery located a
Durbin it runs under the name of Pocahontas Tanning Co. an
1904 by J.C Hoffman Sr.and J.C Hoffman Jr.J.C Hoffman 3rd a

that are occupied by employees of the Pocahontas Tannery the pre

of employees is 300 and the average monthly payroll is $35,000.

The general Manager and Sup't of production is H.M Wid

ant sup'ts W.W Hoover and H.J Widney, Chemist Arthus N Kay, Chief

C.E Carlson-Accountant W.F Groff assisted by M.M Brown. The presi

company is J.G Hoffman 3rd he is also treasurer, E.G Howes Vice p

bright secretary and ass't treasurer,

This tannery has a daily capacity of 3000 sides of sol

which is shipped here from South America, Australia, New Zeland, Can

ico besides that which is shipped from the many packing centers o

The entire output of this tannery is made into sole leather which

cattle hides only, that is shipped to all Shoe manufacturing centers ~~AM~~

the U.S.A besides some is shipped abroad to be used there.

These two tanneries not only furnish employment to sev

ired of Pocahontas County men but this tanning industry located as

urnish a market for the surplus commodoties of both Edray and Gre

Commerce & Industry.S.G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co

prise so far started and not just alone the people of Pocahontas

tanneries have helped keep our much needed rail roads operating wi

borders,from the taxes paid by the employees new roads and schools

built and maintained,which has contributed greatly to the growth o

s our good roads and our beautiful scenery has induced many touris

hrough our county and state and they spend much money at different

n the county.

So be it said that tanneries were started in Pocahontas C

first settlers and are still operating within our borders today.

Information-Calvin W Price.Marlinton.W.Va.

H.M Widney.Frank.W.Va.

W.Va.Geological Survey.By Paul H Price.

Documents-7

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry
Iron Ore-

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Research Worker Samuel G Smith

Date Research Taken 4/9, 10, 11/

Typist Samuel G Smith

Date Typed 4/12/41

Source Mr.& Mrs James Reed. Huntersville. W.Va.
Court Records. Marlinton. W.Va.
Calvin W Price. " " "

Date Filed

And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro, W.Va. Pocahontas Count

- Greenbrier Ore Company.-

41 In July 22 1940 this company was Incorporated, its principa

es in the Capital City Building in Charleston, and to date they have w

ed in both Pocahontas And Greenbrier County. Their charter for the foll

to mine strip or process all kinds of minerals, coal and other surface

subsurface products including Iron Ore, Manganese, Coal, Oil and Gas.

The incorporators were Rush, Esther M and A Rush Meadows al

and A.V Hunter of Marlinton. W.Va.

Charleston. W.Va. and during 1940 and 41 they were operating on and nea

ns Mountain on the farms of James Reed, Raymond and Sterl Shinaberry

Amos Mclaughlin place.

The equipment used was a steam shovel a bull dozer and a d

they having contracted the hauling of the Ore . It was trucked to Mar

and there ground and made ready for the smelter that was constructe

make a test of its purity, in making this test they filled the mal eshif

smelter furnace with a mixture of iron ore, limestone and coal this

called a smelter furnace, when the test was finished they had a pi

iron of varying degrees of

mmerce And Industry.Samuel G Smith.Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

Browns Creek and Browns Mountain,The Buckley Mountains extending

Beaver Creek,Knapps Creek and extending to Frost and beyond .Oscar

onnel is prospecting in the Beaverlick Mountains and has been since

40.

If Iron Ore is found to in paying quantities Pocahontas Co-

nty will again have a boom like she had during the lumber operations

hat took place from 1880 to 1925.

Pocahontas County is rich in natural resources as we find c

n many sections of the county especially the northwestern part as t

s coal on Cheat,Gauley,Elk,Black,Mountains some of which has been op

d up but the greater part has never been opened up for the simple re

t is most all found back a considerable distance from the R R and th

ard road therefore until the other fields play out Pocahontas County

coal no doubt will not be opened up to a very great extent until that

time,coal is also found and has been mined on Briery Knob,

It is hoped there is oil in Pocahontas County but in all th

erce & Industry.S.G Smith Pocahontas County.

is the general belief that John Whitmire had the first circ

ll in operation in Pocahontas County,this operation took place

of Knapps Creek sometime in the 80 s .

.B Buckley.Buckeye.W.Va.

lliam Perry had an up and Down mill 2 miles from Huntersville

mmings Creek.

Inf.R.L Syms.Huntersville.W.Va.

66

Henry McCormick is supposed to be the first man that filed

was during the operation of the White pine by the St.Lawrence

that had their mill at Ronceverte but got the logs in Pocahontas

J.B Buckley.Buckeye.W.Va.

West Virginia Writers' Project

RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Pocahontas County History
Chapter 8 section 2e

Date April 24, 1941

Research Worker Juanita S. Dilley

Date Research Taken April 10

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Date Typed April 23, 1941

Source

Date Filed

Pocahontas Times, January 2, 1930

Deed Book 35 page 15

Commerce And Industry Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Poca.Co.

1

Marlinton the county seat of Pocahontas County, is beautifully situated at the junction of Knapps Creek and the Greenbrier River, with an elevation of 2,123 feet above sea-level. It is the site of the oldest settlement in Pocahontas County made by Stephen Sewell and Jacob Marlin during the winter of 1750-51 and was known as Marlins Bottom until 1887. In Dec. 1890 Colonel John T McGraw purchased the farms known as Marlins Bottom and the Pocahontas Development Company was chartered to promote the town. It offered $5,000. to be applied on a new court-house if the people would change the county-seat from Huntersville to Marlinton which was done by special election and the Chesapeak & Ohio Railway was begun immediately and completed in 1905 and since the completion of the railroad the town has continued to grow.

Located in Marlinton is a High and Graded School two banks The Bank Of Marlinton and The First Nationak, the town has two weekly newspapers the Pocahontas Times established in 1889 by the Prices and now edited by B Marshall, Calvin Price, The Marlinton Journal was established in 1918 and owned by the Woodyard Publication of Spencer.W.Va. The Greenbrier Tannery of the Union Tanning Co, under the supervision of S.N Hench operated here for years or until it burned about 1929 was rebuilt but did not operate until 1941 when it was bought by the United States Leather Co, a branch of the International

The Times first published 1883 by James B Canfield & Hezekiah

Commerce And Industry Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.
Company of St.Louis Mo.S.B Wallace & Company wholesale druggists,Clifto-
Forge Grocery,wholesale grocers with J.A McLaughlin as salesman and mgr.
an up to date hardware store owned and operated by C.J Richardson & sons
A.G Killingsworth building contractor and building matrrial born in Marli-
nton took took to building construction at an early age and has built many
of the business houses and dwellings in Marlinton,as the town grew more st-
ores and other business establishments were built as today you find the
following home owned stores Thomas & Thomas ~~ÄMX~~ owned by Mrs Anna Thomas,
O.K Grocery by Laura Nelson,The Shrader Store by Glenn Shrader,P.C Curry
general store,Williams & Pifer gen store,Forest Malcomb gen.store,Peoples
Store & Supply Co.by the late Ira D Brill and now owned by his wife Lura
Brill,an up to date drug store with Drs.Allen & Callison as owners,News
stand and confections Harry Sharp and another by his brother Wilber,T.D Mo-
ore Dry goods and groceries with an up to date jewelery store by Amos Woo-
Dell, Langs dress Shop by Fleta & Mable Lang,a shoe repair shop by Dice Gri-
mes and another by Raymond Wiley.Marlinton also has the following garages
Baxters ,Rexrodes,Shafers,A.C Pifer,Sheets & Kingor Marlinton Electric all of
places of business are home owned and operated and grew with the expansion
of the town with the help of all thr public spirited men namely Calvin Price
and the late Andrew Price,S.B Wallace,Ira D Brill,and many others as the pop-
ulation in 1900 was 171,in 1910 it was 1,045 and in 1940 it was 1500

Commerce & Industry.Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Poca,Co.

Marlinton has three gasoline distribution tanks The Standard Oil Co. Sheets & King,American and Williams & Pifer Conoco.

years ago in the days of what was called the peddler days Paul Golden carried a pack on his back all over the hills of Pocahontas County making enough money to start a department store which he operated for years later going into the lumber business but at present in the Wholesale Dry Goods business covering several states.Marlinton has an up to date meat market owned by Frank McLaughlin.

Marlinton has the following hotels The Marlin Sewell,Clarks Home Hotel,Weifords Hotel besides many tourists homes the one in the town is operated by Mrs.S.J Rexrode.

XXXXXXXXX Marlinton has had many doctors both medical and surgical many of the earlier ones moved out but we find Drs.Norman and James Price, O.A Howard in the medical field while we find Drs,Harry Solter and K.J Hamrick in both the medical and surgical field all these men administering to the many people of Pocahontas County the surgery being performed in thePocahontas Memorial Hospital under the supervision of Mrs.N.S Woodyard.

Hillsboro is the oldest town in Pocahontas County from the standpoint of incorporation,having been chartered in 1886.The town of Huntersville was incorporated 1822 by the Virginia Assembley but charter was surrendered at a

XXXXXX date unknown. Hillsboro is located on a brosd level plain with an elevation of 2,302 feet being situated in the midst of the finest limestone farming section in the county and is largely supported by the products of these farms and for many years Hillsboro was the educational center of that region and supported the Hillsboro Academy as Hillsboro was known as Academy for many yearsas it was established in I842 was incorporated in that year under a charter granted by the state of Virginia the incorporators were the late men Joseph Beard, S.D Poage, Samuel L Mathews, Moses H Poage, John Hill, Thomas Hill, James Miller, and Richard McNeel the first principal was the Rev. Joseph Brown who served for seven years and was succeeded by Rev. M. D Dunlap who served until the war came on in I860 and the school closed, after this the county purchased the building for public school purposes, this was the first school of high order in the countyand it left its impression upon the education intrests of this mountain region as many of our leaders of today received a part of their education at this old academy.

Hillsboro has continued to grow as an educational center as today we find a population of 225 a part of which are people who have moved in for educational advantages as today there is a high school and a graded school.

About I910 or II Edgar H McLaughlin with his brother the late Lee P McLaughlin started what was known at that time as a horse show but later developed into our county fair and it was at this show that some of the best

Commerce and Industry. Samuel G Smith Pocahontas Co.

horses that Pocahontas County ever produced or owned were raced or shown among them was Fair Maiden owned by Robert Burns, Gratten Patch raced by Dr. Sandy Arbuckle, Tom Thumb by Lacy Johnson, Dock Blackburn by Pat Gay and many others. MClaughlins operated this fair for 3 or 4 years each year they went to Mt. Sterling Ky. and brought in many fine saddle horses that were sold at public auction. The late George Callison also brought in many fine gaited horses and sold them throughout the county. The last year the show operated was under the management of Dr. Marvin C Smith as he rented it that year. About 1915 this show was moved to Marlinton to lower Camden where they operated for a short time and finally the present site was bought and a corporation was formed and called The Pocahontas County Fair which we still have with added features to what it was at the start, the management was Dr. S.B Wallace, John Sydenstricker, E.H Williams and Z.S Smith and many others this was all done by public spirited men Dr. Fred C Allen, for the development of our county, and today this fair is looked forward to by thousands of our people and is a homecoming for the ones out of the county and state. Hillsboro is in the center of what many people have called the cup like shaped basin of fertile soil from which has been farmed for several generations from the pioneer to the present time among the first farmers were the following Charles W Beard, Sherman M Clark, Richard W Hill, William L McNeel, Franklin Renick, and others, the first physician was

Commerce & Industry.S.G Smith Pocahontas Co.

us P Bryan and James A LaRue all of these men were born in the early part

f the 18th century.

At the time of the breaking out of the war William Curry was serving as both County and Circuit Clerk and feeling the county records were in danger the court ordered the records removed to the home of the late Joel Hill here they remained till 1862 when Mr Curry became alarmed and had them removed to Covington Va, for safe keeping later to be removed to the residence of William Clark where they were concealed in a stack of buckwheat straw and later to the mountains and stored away at the house of a Baptist minister and at the close of the war court was held in the old Methodist Church at Hillsboro.These men were true to their trust.

These accomplishments were made by public spirited men working for and contributing to the growth of Pocahontas County.

Inf------ C.W Price Marlinton.W.Va.

Rella F Yeager.Hillsboro.''

Hardestys History and Geographical Encyclopedia(property of Rella Yeager)

M.C Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.

W.Va.Geological Survey.By Paul Price.

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As the timber was cleared the level and more fertile land was taken for agriculture in Pocahontas County.The land and climate was adapted to livestock farming and so livestock of all kinds was imported from other sections the greater number being sheep no doubt as they are known as the Golden Hoof EX for Pocahontas County as for many years the sale of wool and lambs has brought more money into the county than any other thing.About the first sheep brought in by the first settlers was the Merino that has long been famous for its fine wool as well as mutton qualities,this furnished wool for the many spinning wheels,carding machines and foot-powered looms,the Merino was a hardy sheep and well adapted to this county,these were followed by the Shropshire and Southdown which were not only desirable for wool purposes but produced fine quality of mutton and today this section of the Greenbrier Valley produces some of the best mutton lambs that is found in the state which are shipped to the eastern markets where they are slaughtered and the carcasses dressing out better than the average,the sheep industry has contributed more toward the growth of the county than any other livestock,as we find sheep on 90% of the farms of Pocahontas County that give cash returns two times yearly the wool in the spring and the lamb crop in the fall,thus making them the most valuable livestock that the farmers of the county can keep and today you find fine flocks of sheep of many different breeds

grazing on the hills and in the vales,but not in as great numbers as use to be as the bear that roam the mountainous sections of the county are plentiful and each year they eat and destroy several hundred dollars worth of sheep,some farmers goingx out of the business others handling only what they can keep in the more thickly populated and close in sections the dogs have played havoc with the sheep industry along with the bear and unless steps are taken to rid the county of bear and strict dog laws the sheep industry in Pocahontas County is on the decline and the peak was reached about 1930 as the government has bought up a large percent of the mountainous section of the county, with no inhabitants thus making this a bears paradise ideal for the sportsman but very hard on the sheep raisers and producers of the county thus a decrease in the sheep industry for which Pocahontas County is noted and gets her greatest cash income from.As sheep thrive on high ground and most of this is government owned the numbers will be less,their lives shorter and a decrease in income to the farmers.

In Pocahontas we find many Registered flocks,namely Hampshires,Dorsets,Cheviots,Southdown Shropshire and Corridales most of these flocks have been established since 1900 and today some of the best flocks of these breeds that are found in the state are found in Pocahontas County and most of these flocks are exhibited at the Pocahontas County Fair,The Greenbrier XXX Valley

fair and some going to The Richmond State Fair and to Baltimore winning many prizes.The first Purebred herds established in Pocahontas County were Hampshires beyond a doubt and were brought into the county by F.H McLaughlin and his brother the late Lee P McLaughlin both of Hillsboro and at present we find XX flocks of Purebred Hampshires owned By Ralph Arbogast of Millpoint,one by F.H Williams and A.C Barlow of Marlinton and one by Monroe Beard at Arbovale,W.A Arbogast of Millpoint has a fine flock of Cheviots,we find Dorsets and Southdowns scattered throughout the county but the largest flock of Dorsets is owned by A.C Barlow and the most Southdowns are being produced by F.H Williams with S.G Smith of Hillsboro starting a purebred flock of Southdowns,these breeders furnish rams to the many sheep men of the county and state,many of which are sold through the Extension Department at the many ram sales held throughout the state.

Cattle are next in importance in the way of income in the county and we have two types the beef type and the dairy type but the most important at this time is the beef animal as many farmers and cattle men throughout the county produce and sell the finished product found in the 3 year old steer these come from Hereford,Shorthorn and Aberdeen-Angus breeds for which the county is famous,one of the first breeders of Purebred Beef Cattle was the late Richard Callison who bought some Registered Herefords from out of the

formerly he was a large livestock farmer on Locust Creek,his work was carried on by his sons E.B & D.M Callison.Today you find Registered herds in many sections of the county where bluegrass grows you will find plenty of fat cattle.The late J.S McNeel of the levels was a pioneer in the Purebred Beef Cattle business as he brought into the county from all parts of the U.S the finest cattle that money could buy at that time and today some of the same bloodlines that these gentlemen brought to the county still exist.Among the breeders of Hereford cattle that were registered are the following men besides the ones above mentioned F.P Kidd breeder of Herefo- the late J.M Cutlip & Board now operated by his son J.R
rds and Aberdeen Angus,M.C Smith of Hillsboro,A.C Barlow and Chas.Baxter of the Edray section and Howard Hevener of the Greenbank section.

F.H Williams of Marlinton is breeder of Milking Shorthorns these men make up the bulk of the Purebred breeders of Pocahontas County.Each year some of these men exhibit at the Pocahontas County Fair at Marlinton,thus advertising their stock for which they find a ready sale from all over the state.

Many breeders are sold through the calf sale at Marlinton and the best taken to Jacksons Mill to be sold there to the many livestock breeders from over the state.

According to reliable authority the man to which much credit should go is to our past county agent C.P Dorsey as he no doubt did more for the

industry.S.G.S.Pocahontas Co.

livestock industry of Pocahontas County than any other man or group of men, as he built up the Livestock Shipping Association, the wool pool, the Farm Bureau to the highest possible peak, as this tipe of men are needed everywhere so the State Department at Morgantown having noticed his achievements in Pocahontas County and took him to Morgantown to the Extension Department. It was through his efforts that we have our feeder calf sale annually, the ram sale, and more purebred sires on the farms of Pocahontas County.

Information- E.B Callison. Marlinton. W.Va.

M.C Smith Hillsboro. "

W.G McKeever Buckeye. "

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Mrs. Ligon Coyner. Cloverlick. W.Va.

W.G McKeever & Nancy A McNeill Buckeye W.Va.

Commerce And Industry Samuel C Smith Hillsboro W.Va. Pocahontas Co.

Maple sugar and Maple syrup-

The maple syrup industry of Pocahontas County started back in Indian times as we first had the wooden trough burned out by the Indian and hot rocks were used in these troughs to boil the sugar water down,then the old iron kettle used by the hardy pioneer that first settled in Pocahontas then came along the sugar pan and today we find many of the up to date evaporators in use in some of our larger sugar orchards in Pocahontas County.

Sugar maple trees are found in many parts of Pocahontas especially on the elevated flats and in the many rich coves scattered over almost the entire county.Many old sugar trees found throughout the county bear the mark of many tappings and some in a very crude way as some were tapped by the upward stroke of an ax and in this notch a thin shingle like board was driven this carried the sugar water to the old open trough which was either burned or chopped out of some sort of soft wood namely Poplar,and Cucumber and the troughs made by the Indians were burned out and by the first settlers while the troughs made in the latter part of the 18th century and the ones made at the present time were chopped out with a foot adz many of which are found in some of the older camps throughout the county that are opened each year for home use,the old time spile made from sumach to carry the water from the tree to the trough was used until it was replaced by the metal spile on which was made hooks on which to fasten the buckets.

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY.SAMUEL G SMITH HILLSBORO.W.VA.POCAHONTAS COUNTY.

X Many sugar camps are tapped each spring throughout the county but most of these are for home use however we find many camps that make both syrup and sugar for sale among them is an up to date camp on Clover Creek Mountain operated by Ligon Coyner of Cloverlick the sugar orchard is on Gov. ernment land but the camp is on the farm of Berry Coyner this is the largest camp in Pocahontas County and said to be the 3rd largest camp in the United States.They started operation in the spring of 1940 at which time they tapped enough trees to use 6,500 buckets .His equipment consists of an evaporator with the capacity of 20,000 gallons of sugar water extensive pipelines a storage tank or gathering tank)his entire equipment cost between $4 and $5.000.00 in this evaporator is what is known as a Hydrometer an instrument for measuring the specific gravity of liquids,also the strength of liquids and by the use of this they are able to make syrup of uniform thickness,color and strength by using this instrument they are able to make a syrup to put on the market meeting all standards of requirements set forth by the government according to Mrs Ligon Coyner 20.000 gallons of sugar water makes about 600 gallons of high grade syrup which they find ready sale as this syrup is bought for fancy trade as they sell the Greenbrier Hotel at White Sulphur Springs 200 or more gallons each year besides what is sold locally to the W.Va.Pulp And Paper Company at Cass,W.Va.the XXXXXXremainder going to Ohio in bulk in

erce and Industry Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

Maple Syrup Industry.

barrels,but most of what was sold locally was put up in pint,

f gallon and gallon cans all of which brought $ 2.oo per gallon.

In I940 they made 500 gallon and in the season of 4I they made

00 and I000 gallon a part of this syrup was made into fancy pack-

by using small molds of maple leaf and rose design these boxes

n the market for sale on special occasions namely birthday and gi-

for which they receive 80 cents per pound,this is very high grade

ored very fine grain and of excellent flavor for which the touri-

s very fond and according to Mrs Coyner they hope to build up a

his fancy package sugar (or candy) .Both I940 and 4I were bad ye-

season was very short .

Mr.Coyner omploys I5 men steady but at times during a heavy run

high as 30 men gathering water,cutting wood and firing the furnace.

very much interested in the maple syrup and sugar industry and hope

to produce in good years from 3 to 5,000 gallons then they hope to

compete with Vermont

and in this way the grain was seperated from the straw this was known as ''tramping out'' all the grain was threshed in this manner until 1839 when a machine was introduced in this county by William Gibson of Huntersville, W.Va.This machinewas known as the ''chaff piler'' this machine was operated by Jesse Whitmer and John Galford late of Millpoint,the Greenbrier Bridge was built in 1854-56 by Lemuel Chenowerth of Beverley this bridge has meant much to the development of Pocahontas County and to the growth of Marlinton as it is the largest shipping point in Pocahontas County serving a larger area.

Pocahontas County has had many famous sons in the formation and growth of the county as N.C McNeill a native son who took to the law profession in his early years ,was one of Pocahontas County's destinguished criminal lawyer and later represented this district in the State Senate,other attorneys were Andrew Price, L.M McClintic,F.R Hill who in his later years served in the legislature,A.P Edgar lawyer and Prosacuting Attorney for a number of years,in later years Pocahontas has put out new lawyers in J.E Buckley and A.E Cooper who are practicing at this time .Pocahontas County has twin brothers that they should be proud and justly so, in the Sharp brothers, Summers and George, Summers served for 20 years on the bench as Circuit Judge serving the counties of Greenbrier,Monroe and Pocahontas and in 1936 ran

AN UNSUccessful race for governor of the state,while his brother served a term term as clerk of the court and later served as Secretary of state.

No man ever lived in Pocahontas County that was more universally loved than the late Squire L Brown who served as clerk of the county court continuously from 1884 until the time of his death 1934 with the exception of a term served by the late C.J McCarty.

Durbin the largest town in the upper Pocahontas was chartered in 1906 is the shipping and mercantile center for the northern end of the county largely built up by the tannery at Frank,Cass a lumbering town below Durbin was brought about by the lumbering industry of Pocahontas County.Greenbank a rural town in an agricultural section was the homes of many of the pioneers of Pocahontas that migrated across the Allegheny's to erect tanneries, grist-mills and the like,as this section is famous for its fine quality buckwheat that was one of the principal crops of our sturdy pioneers.

Pocahontas county produced another favorite son that had much to do with the advancement and progress of the county, this man is George W McClintic who has served as Federal Judge of the southern district of W.Va.for a number of years,besides this he is owner of vast farm and grazing lands at Buckeye and on Williams River that produces mules,cattle and lambs in large numbers XXXXXXXX.

Peter Lightner was the builder of the first grist mill,this mill was erected on Knapps Creek,this was quite an improvement on the way they had to make meal before that time as up to that time they used the hominy block and the hollowed out log in which they pounded the corn until it was fine enough to bake into bread.

In the early days a man by the name of John Harmess began hauling goods from Staunton to Pocahontas County to trade to the settlers for their pelts,venison,ginseng etc.for which they received salt,coffee,powder,lead, and he always carried a piece of calico this trading post was at Huntersville at the cabin of John Bradshaw,from this fact the place became known as Huntersville,a name which it has ever since retained.It was no uncommon thing for the merchants to make from three to four hundred percent on dry goods and near that amount on groceries but shortly the Warm Springs-Huntersville road was built then stores of size and importance came into existance namely Amos Barlow,J.C Loury & Son,and Loury & Doyle.Here for many years a thriving business was carried on in the harness and saddlery business,first by John Haines then by William Fertig and lastly by William Grose & Son.Before the children of Israel brought ready made clothing to our county tailoring was a good business at Huntersville.Messers Campbell and John& James Holden turned out a great deal of work.Weddings always gave the saddlers a goodly share of

BUSINESS as it was considered good form for the bride to have a new outfit,horse,saddle,and bridle and most of this was made at huntersville at that time.

Jack Tidd,William Dilley and G.W Ginger operated blacksmith shops at Huntersville at different times.

For a long series of years nothing seemed more flourishing than the hostelry business in conjunction with salooning,this was particularly true with one of the largest hotels at Huntersville and was operated succession by J.Williams.John Bussard.John Holden.Porterfield Wallace,I.C Carpenter and P.Campbell but was burned in the fire of 1852.Another hotel operated by William Gibson,John Haines and Davis Hamilton this one was burned during the war.

Information------C.W Price.Marlinton.W.Va.
History of Pocahontas County,by William T Price.
Rella F Yeager.Hillsboro.W.Va.
Hardeatys History And Encyclopedia.

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COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY. SAMUEL G SMITH HILLSBORO. W. VA. POCA. CO.

The livestock industry of Pocahontas County is its greatest industry at this time and the money derived from sale of the same is the largest of any industry in the county, much of this livestock is bought by our local livestock buyer and dealer George P Edgar of Hillsboro who buys and ships cattle and sheep not only from this county but all the adjoining counties.

In traveling through the county on route 219 you will see many herds of beef cattle and many flocks of sheep grazing in the bluegrass that is found so plentiful in the Little Levels section, but today many of these beef cattle are being replaced by their slim sister the dairy cow as many farmers throughout the county have taken to dairying either shipping their cream or selling to a truck from Ronceverte but today dairying is in its infancy in Pocahontas County but should be one of the leading industries in a few years as we have ideal climatic conditions along with abundance of bluegrass pasture and ample grain. Hogs are not as plentiful as in years past due to lack of mast that use to be so plentiful especially before the blight killed all the chestnut trees but today some farmers are specializing in hog raising and on these farms you will find from 100 to 150 hogs being fattened for the eastern markets each fall from grain largely produced at home. Along about 1900 and before hogs roamed the mountains about at will and oft- times went wild and had to be hunted and killed like the wild hog in ancient times, they made their

living from the woods eating mast,worms,roots and etc.therefore producing cheap meat but times have changed as we have very little mast and very few if any hogs running at large in the mountains.

Pocahontas County ranks high in the production of both poultry and eggs and you find a small flock of chickens on every farm in the county most of which are general purpose or utility chickens but scattered about throughout the county you will find a goodly sized flock of layers and now and then a flock of show birds the latter being exhibited at both the Pocahontas County Fair at Marlinton and at the Greenbrier County Fair near Lewisburg in Greenbrier County.The income derived from the sale of chickens and eggs pays the farmers grocery bills as a general thing.Most of the live poultry going to Philadelphia Pa.and to Baltimore Md.and during the holiday season it is not uncommon to see from 300 to 350 coops of chickens going down on the train this means several thousands of dollars to the farmers of this section each year.

It is very convincing that the livestock industry is the main industry of the county at this time,this being a limestone section and with the lime and phosphate that is being applied in connection with the soil conservation program Pocahontas County will be able to produce more and better livestock in years to come as it always has been a county that produced livestock of a very high quality,but the government program for the farmer will make the land

more fertile.

Many horses are produced in Pocahontas County, especially the draft or heavy horse as the hard road and the automobile have caused a decrease in the raising of saddle horses, but the tractor has done much to cut down in the numbers of draft horses on farms over the county.

Several flocks of goats are found throughout the county most of which are used in clearing land, as they are great for eating and peeling small and young growth timber and sprouts.

The principal agricultural products of Pocahontas County are corn, oats wheat, hay, potatoes, apples, peaches, grapes and rye in the approximate order named. At the present time the production of Potatoes is getting considerable consideration as it has been found that farmers of Pocahontas County can produce a quality potatoe equal to the ones shipped in from Maine and other potato producing states of the east, therefore the potato acerage of the county is growing each year and with proper care we have yields of from 400 to 500 bushels of quality potatoes most of which are sold within the state to some of the larger hotels and restaurants, mainly at the Greenbrier Hotel at White Sulphur Springs and at Covington Va. all bringing market price and greatly in demand as these hotels, as they have a trade that demands the best.

Pocahontas county is not a grain county as she does not produce en-

ough wheat to bread her therefore she has to depend on outside supplies for flour.Today you find Hybrid corn growing in many sections of the county where it use to be impossible in the days of our pioneer ancestors to get any corn to ripen at all,and this had to be on low land near the river,but today corn ripens in any part of the county.Much of the corn raised in Pocahontas is put in silos for winter feeding.Oats are the principal crop of the mountainous sections of the county where it is rather cool the summer through as they do well in a cool climate,the same as potatoes therefore the Williams River and Cranberry sections are good for potatoes and oats,and have been since the county was first settled.

Information-W.Va.Geological Survey.By Paul Price.
W.Va.News. Ronceverte.W.Va.By Edd Blake.
Agricultural Statistics.
E.B Callison.Marlinton.W.Va.
W.G McKeever Buckeye. "

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COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY. SAMUEL G SMITH POCAHONTAS COUNTY.

One of the sacred duties resting on the living is to preserve memories of worthy citizens that have gone on before, and they from a rough wild nurse land, whose crops were men. The Shawnee Indians proceded the pioneers in Pocahontas County with the actual use of hunting grounds, their warriors were buried by their tribes in many localities of Pocahontas County these were mounds or Indian graves which are found near Buckeye and on Elk River then came the pioneers that were buried in a different manner as they were buried in home made caskets then came the modern funeral director with the factory built casket and the modern funeral home. One of the first to handle caskets was A.R Smith of Hillsboro who is near 90 years old he had the horse drawn vehickle then there came to Pocahontas County another Smith that took up the same work his name is Z.S Smith Sr, assisted by his son Clarence they have an up to date place in Marlinton taking over most of the work in the county, as A.R Smith was forced to quit on account of advanced age. Wallace & Wallace have a branch at Cass with J.B. Sutton in charge.

Most if not all the caskets used in the mountainous sections of the county were made by carpenters and cabinet makers namely Washington Beverage and M. Dorman at Buckeye A.R Smith at Hillsboro and many others throughout the county all this lumber was cut on the old up-and down mills and the first circular mills that came into the county. Some of our cemet-

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY. SAMUEL G. SMITH HILLSBORO. W. VA. POCAHONTAS CO.

yrs were started as family plots, some the results of Indian raids, the largest and best kept is Mt. View Cemetery overlooking the town of Marlinton which is owned by the town.

Pocahontas County is known as a recreational section as tourists from all over the United States visit and pass through the county each year and to take care of these tourists out in natures paradise tourists cabins have been erected along all the leading highways so they will be away from the heat and noise of the citys and towns, these cabins are lit by electricity the northern part of the county by the West Penn while the lower part of the county is served by the Virginia Public Service you find these cabins on Droop Mountain, made of pine logs at Droop Camp filling station, at Hillsboro George Bartholomew has up to date cabins just outside the town limits, at Buckeye W.W Graham has cabins some finished with native stone that are cool in summer and warm in winter other cabins are found on Knapps Creek and on Elk at L. D Sharps.

In getting away from the sweltering heat requires ice cold soft drinks and these are made and destributed by T.J Mason and his son Walter they own and operate the only bottling works in the county known as Marlinton Bottling Works, with a large and a small truck they supply the county as this is one of the leading industries of the county especially in the hot

SUMMER MONTHS,and Wilbur Sharp makes ice cream that is sold locally and in his place of business.

George Bartholomew owner of The Feed Bag,that serves meals,sells gasoline and oil and has a number of cabins,Mr.Bartholomew is a wood worker and cabinet maker as he has a work shop in the rear of the filling station where he makes all sorts of furniture and novelties made of wood,inlay work by many designs and many kinds of wood,these articles find ready sale as the tourist trade buys his entire output consisting of fancy tables,table lamps and many other oddities made of wood that is produced here in Pocahontas County,sales from his products run high especially during the tourist season.

Handicraft is rather undeveloped in Pocahontas County as the county produces barks suitable for weaving baskets and other novelties that are made from bark,this could be made one of the leading industries of the county,but due to lack of weavers of knowledge in weaving it is undeveloped at the present time.Incomes of considerable size could be made during the summer or tourist trade season by selling craft made from bark along our main highways and at filling stations located throughout the county.Pocahontas has many old antiques and each year antique dealers from out of the state buy what they can in the way of corner cupboards,desks,tables,chairs,wooden bed steads,old spinning wheels,stone ware and many other articles used by our forefathers,some

COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, S.C.S. POCAHONTAS COUNTY.

ople here in the county have rooms furnished in old antiques. The Prices
s. Anna Hunter, T.S McNeel and Mrs Dr McCutcheon are gatherers of this
are in the county. Much of which is exhibited at the Pocahontas County
Fair in the old time exhibits which attracts more attention than any other
exhibit, all articles made of wood are made from black walnut or cherry from
the W.Va. hills in Pocahontas County, these articles are cherished very much
by their owners as they played a very important part in the building and
growth of the county as many of these articles and furniture were used by
the first settlers of Pocahontas County and have been in use all down thro-
ugh the years. In talking to some of our older people and discussing these
old relics they say they bring back recollections that are very dear to
them as their parents and grandparents used these articles when they sett-
led the wilds of old Pocahontas.

So be it said that these articles so highly cherished today were the impliments and furniture around which started the growth of the county.

Information-----C.B Bartholomew. Hillsboro, W.Va.
Rella F Yeager. " "
T.S McNeel Marlinton. W.Va.
C.W Price. " "((

Boone Counties-7

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ommerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.

ry much like an onion, each spring these are dug and sold to the people of r towns also to people from sections that do not produce them, they are considered a delicacy by many people and each spring many so called Ramp reunions are held throughout the county and state.

Much fruit is produced in Pocahontas County C.J Richardson owns what is known as the fruit farm which is located near the Greenbrier River above Marlinton, this orchard consists of from 40 to 50 acres of trees and each year this fruit is picked and sold locally in and around Marlinton another orchard of size is found on the McClintic Farm on Swago Creek near Buckeye the acerage in trees is from 35 to 40 acres the fruit is sold locally.

Pocahontas County produces Cranberrys on Cranberry River this section located in the western part of Pocahontas was once known as the Wilderness or wilds of Pocahontas this glade is cut up into smaller ones namely the big glade Flag Glade, Long Glade, Round Glade and Little Glade with a total acerage of 100 acres but truly this just one big glade containing from 250 to 300 acres of deep wet soil overgrown in some places with a thicket of shrubbery and others carpeted with moss. There is perhaps no area of equal extent in W.Va. which is of greater importance for its influence on water flow nor one more interesting to the student and collector on account of its varied forms of plant and animal life than this glady region laying at an elevation of ~~XX~~ 3,400 above sea level at the head of Cranberry River, each fall these Cranberries are gathered by people

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from different sections of Pocahontas County as well as by some from outside of it,some are sold and when put away in the moss from the glades will keep a considerable length of time this section was once in one of our dense and undisturbed forests but was cut over by Warn Lumber Co.and since been bought by the state and put into a national forest and game reserve as this section has much game as well as trout fishing streams save for the timber the resources of this section are undeveloped and with the Marlinton,Millpoint to Richwood road that has been and is beingbuiilt by the federal government by federal prisoners it is hoped this section of Pocahontas will be opened up.in the near future and its resourses developed.

Pocahontas County has many fish streams the larger streams having both large and small mouth bass and Pike while the smaller streams have both Brook and Rainbow Trout along with the Brown Trout in some streams to keep these streams stocked a Fish Hatchery was built between Edray and Onoto just below the old Mclaughlin Spring and here thousands of trout and other fish are hatched and fed to a certain size then they are distributed throughout this section of the state in our local streams,because of its fine fishing streams and good fishing many of the outddor and sporting class visit Pocahontas each year.

Our rugged mountains ,covered with a great variety of trees,shrubs and flowering plants,combined with swift,pure mountain streams,scores of large

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Volume springs and numerous fairyland caverns affords us scenic grandeur unsurpassed and should be recognized as another of our most important natural resources.

If these resources are wisely developed and wizely utilized which incidentally is true conservation,the people of Pocahontas County will have a bright and prosperous future.

Information.Calvin W Price Marlinton.W.Va.

W.Va.Geological Survey.By Paul Price.

A.W McNeill Buckeye.W.Va.

Pocahontas Times.May 15/41

West Virginia Writers' Project

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History of Pocahontas Co.by William T Price.

Hardestys History and Encyclopedia.

NOTE

(1)

COMMIRCE AND INDUSTRY.SAMUEL G.SMITH HILLSBORO.W.VA.POCAHONTAS CO.

The first county court of Pocahontas County convened March 1822 at the house of John Bradshaw those qualifying were John Jordan,William Poag, James Tallman,Robert Gay,George Poag, Benjamin Tallman,John Baxter and George Burner a little later on John Jordan became the first sheriff of the county under a $30.000.00 bond with Abraham and Isaac McNeel as his bondsmen,Josiah Beard was appointed clerk of the court his work speaks for its self and Sampson L Mathews was recommended and appointed as surveyor of lands,William Hughes was appointed constable of Little Levels and James Cooper was appointed constable for the upper end of the county now Greenbank District.Travis W Perkins opened up a house of entertainment thus he became the first hotel proprietor in Pocahontas County.

The first term of court convened onMay 7,1822 and the first grand jury that ever sat in a body for Pocahontas County were the following persons Samuel Daugherty,foreman,John Mooney,George Key,John Johnston,Joseph Freed,James Grimes,James Bridger,Samuel Waugh,Henry Herold,James Lewis,John Grimes,Morris Hughs,William Blair,Andrew D Edmiston,Samuel Hogset,James McNeel, William McNeel,John Moore,Lanty Lockridge,Jonathan Griffin,and Abraham Seabord,these fine old gentlemen paved the way for our present court.

Pocahontas County was named for the daughter of a Powhatan,her real name was Matoka,she was born about the year 1595,about 1612 she was visiting

...zaus chief of the Potomac Indians,and it was at this time she was enticed her on board a boat and she was taken away by captain Agall and so she met and married John Rolfe.

The first man to carry a compass in the Greenbrier valley was John Lewis, and the first settler in Little Levels was Col.John McNeel who came to this country thinking he had killed a man in the Maryland-Virginia section but after locating in Little Levels and erecting a cabin and out hunting he came upon Charles and James Kinnison from where the fight took place and informed him the man had not died and in fact not seriously wounded,this was great relief for him and he began to open up the vast wilderness that later became the garden spot of Pocahontas County,these men and their wives were buried in the McNeel cemetery just north of Hillsboro.

Huntersville the county seat for many years was laid out in I82I and shortly boasted of two general mercantile stores,the county buildings, a hotel a postoffice and one news paper the Pocahontas Times all of which were moved to Marlinton which beaame the countyseat in later years.

The first settlers in Edray District was Marlin and Sewell who erected a cabin near the present site of Greenbrier Bridge in I749 this location grew until today we find a town of near I,600 population.

In the early days grain was threshed both by the flail and by the riding of one horse and the leading of one or more that were freshly shod

Commerce And Industry.Samuel G Smith Hillsboro.W.Va.Pocahontas Co.

to be able to supply it to the rest of the state where laurel does not gr-

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Pocahontas County ranks high in the production of evergreens and each year many of these are cut at Christmas time and trucked to the towns and cities of of W.Va. and sold as Christmas trees of these the Spruce is the most desirable,they are found on high elevation especially on Cheat Mt. Spruce Knob,Black Mt. and many other sections of high altitude mostly found on the Northwestern part of the county,many of our little Spruce find their way to Charleston about Christmas time.

Pocahontas is noted for its wildflowers coming early in the spring and staying until late in the fall many of these are dug each year and sold to wildflower lovers over the state.Many of the rich woodlands of Pocahontas grow Ginseng andGolden Seal these two plants in years goneby were the means of living for many of our mountain people as thousands of dollars Kkworth of these roots were dug each year in the wilds besides the tame and cultivated patches that were found scattered over the county the ginseng is mostly sent to SHINA where it is said it is made into medicineOther plants and roots are gathered each yep ar and shipped to herb plants that use them in making medicine,H.C Cole now located at Alleghany Va. and formerly of Watoga W.Va. was an herb doctor that used many of our plants of Pocahontas for County medicine.

Many mountainous sections of Pocahontas County produce Ramps,a plant